

## A Solace For The Servant (Mark 3:7-19)

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## A Solace for The Servant Mark 3:7-19

This message could not have come at a better time for me and for you.

The days we are living now are extremely stressful days. The past few weeks for me particularly have seen some of the most stressful I can ever remember, and the most stressful thing is that there is no end in sight. Life just keeps coming and coming at an overwhelming rate.

The question that I and maybe you need to be asking is how did our savior deal with the stresses of life. And that

is exactly where we find ourselves in text

I. The Need for Solace - The number of onlookers, followers, needy began to grow exponentially. Vs 7-8 indicate that they came from the north south east west. When crowds grew <sup>became too large</sup>

A. Cleansing of the Diseased - After word spread of his ability to heal, they began to come in droves with all manner of sickness. No longer waiting for Jesus to reach them they began to <sup>vs 9</sup> ~~throng~~ - press, crowd him and <sup>vs 10</sup> even press upon - to fall upon and seize him.

Reminds me of lesson taught concerning <sup>Pull savior down!</sup> ~~summing~~

B. Casting of Devils - Vs 11 There was also a constant barrage of demonic attack. People demonicall possessed falling down



in convulsive fits. One author describes them "sizing him up with hawls of his name" Jesus squelching these cries, and casting them out, seasts silence such a <sup>association</sup> ~~perverse~~

C. The Careful Dectuer - All the while, watching his every move were the Scribes and Pharasees. Constantly scrutienizing his every move. Looking for any opportunity to cast accusal or defame his character. Which brings us to

D. The Call for Death - Remember in VS 6 The Scribes and Pharasees took counsel to Kill Him. His life was on the line here. We would play war when we were kids, plant so called "land mines" Dad would yell "Bang!"

Jesus walking through a stress filled, explosive situations. Bible commentators "Jesus Pressured Jesus Life for us can be just as pressing. Stress filled. Need for

II. The Necessity for Supplication VS 13. When we find the Lord Jesus in such a stress filled, pressure packed situation what do we find him doing? How did Jesus deal with the stress of Serving God. VS 13 Luke 6:11 Prayer

A. A Pattern for Prayer - This is a pattern for Prayer. Now Prayer should be a regular part of our day to day routine. And I believe we see that in Lord Jesus, but there are those specific heavy moments when the weight and stress of

- 1) When the crowds grew so did the danger. Although Jesus was God in the flesh, he was still in the flesh, only one man. The crowds became overwhelming. You can only imagine the pressure and the strain placed up on the Servant of Jehovah. Notice the reason for the need of Solace.

Problems just tumbled about me

And he never came each task

"Why doesn't God help me?" I wondered

He answered, "You didn't ask"

I wanted joy and beauty

But the day was gray and bleak

I wondered why God didn't show me

But He said, "You didn't seek"

I woke up early this morning

And passed before entering the day

I had so much to accomplish

That I had to take time to pray

2) Isaiah 40:31 But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength: they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint. Psalms 40:1-3 I waited patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry. He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my going. And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD.

3) Hebrews 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the

- 2) Luke 6:12 And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.

1) Prayer

I got up early on morning,  
And rushed right into the day.  
I had so much to accomplish  
That I didn't take time to pray  
Problems just tumbled about me  
And heavier came each task,  
"Why doesn't God help me?" I wondered,  
He answered, "You didn't ask."  
I wanted joy and beauty,  
But the day was gray and bleak.  
I wondered why God didn't show me.  
But He said, "You didn't seek."  
I woke up early this morning  
And paused before entering the day.  
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3) Hebrews 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the  
throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find  
grace to help in time of need.



life compell us to run to him. So often when we are hurried by times of stress we neglect prayer, no time for it, this is when it is <sup>most</sup> needed.

### B. A Procedure for Prayer - Alth

ough I have taught on this before I want to note the procedure Jesus followed. He withdrew himself to the mountain away from the pressing throng. A secret place. Jesus spoke of that closet. Note that this secret place was the first place he turned to. So many times we turn to prayer as a last resort. Also we spent

### C. A Purpose for Prayer - In this

stealing away of Jesus to pray I

see that he gained strength thru

prayer, Is 40:3, Ps 40:1-3. Comfort

was found in prayer. Divine comfort

can be found in prayer, Heb 4:16 ③

Mat 11:28 not just for the sinner but for the weary saint. Also wisdom - after this time of prayer we find him naming apostles to share

### III. The Naming of Sharers -

Salice was not only found in Supplication

but it was also found in sharing in the

fellows verses we find the <sup>Importance of</sup> naming of apostles

### A. A Companionship Reason - vs 13-14

they might be with Him. One of the reasons for the calling of the 12 is companionship. Remember Jesus is God. He needs

No one he is self-existent in his deity, yet in his humanity he surrounded himself w/ companionship. This is most vividly seen in the garden of Geth, where the 3 closest companions followed <sup>1</sup> Jesus as he prayed. <sup>rested on Him</sup> <sup>of Geth</sup>

### B. A Continuation Responsibility

Not only he with but... vs 14-15. Jesus gave these sign gifts to his apostles, so that the ministry he was shaping would continue, it would go on. He is giving us a pattern to follow in the Church. Win others to Christ and teach them what you know, that they might go out and do the same. Also Jesus is delegating <sup>some of his power</sup> to them.

## C. A Congregational Reflection

I have been wanting to preach a whole message on this group of apostles but I'll just highlight some things. Charles Powell referenced the apostles as the NT church in microscopic form. Simon Jones + John on inner circle, circles out from there some in church. People at different stages of growth. Average people from every walk of life, fishermen, tax collectors, Zealots. On any of different personalities, yet all brought together, each used for God's glory.

IV. Closing - Take it to the Lord in prayer. Oh what pleasure after perfit are you a friend to God?



- 1) It was said of Abraham that he was a friend of God. Can that be said of your relationship with Christ? Is it a daily walk with a friend?